



Urbane Landwirtschaft in Mailand, Italien | © GettyImages/Federico Rostagno

Climate Change & The Environment

Countries around the globe are experiencing the impacts of climate change in different forms. In Germany, there is strong demand for improved monitoring of water resources, aquatic systems, and related extreme events. Specific local and regional adaptation measures are needed, especially those that improve the resilience of cities to more frequent extreme weather events and higher climate variability.

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The Fight Against Climate Change as an Opportunity in Germany? Current Developments and Further Needs where Water is in Excess

by Flérida Regueira Cortizo, Annika Förster, Michael Schnabel and Daniela Vaziri (GTAI - Berlin/Germany)

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Resilient Cities & Adaptation to Climate Change

Uncommon business opportunities

In Germany, the impact of climate change is driving demand for improved monitoring of water resources in cities. Several measures at different levels can be implemented to counteract and prevent urban climatic effects. This includes the establishment of a “green” and “blue” infrastructure, with vegetation and water areas within the cities leading to improved air quality and reduced noise exposure. Furthermore, customized area management can restrict the sealing of surfaces – which is especially important in highly populated areas – and thus ensure that there are adequate infiltration possibilities as well as fresh air “bubbles”. These issues are now prominent in the national agenda, which has led to increasing investments in air quality improvement. The Roof

Water Farm Project in Berlin was supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and demonstrates approaches to decentralized urban water management and food production.

Further local and regional adaptation to increasingly frequent extreme weather events and higher climate variability are required and infrastructure must be improved. A wide range of projects has already been initiated on the federal and local levels, providing reference points for appropriate adaptation strategies. Furthermore, they promote research and strategy development as well as the implementation of concrete measures. More than 90 percent of all major German cities (76 cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants) are actively developing concepts and strategies for adaptation to climate change (UBA, 2018).

Germany supports the development and application of new solutions to climate challenges – and therefore presents interesting and rare business opportunities for international firms.

Adaptation Tools

There are many tools in Germany that support stakeholders in assessing the impacts of climate change, minimizing its risks, and identifying opportunities. The table below gives an overview of some of these tools and their target groups.

Tools	Target Group
Klimalotse - Climate Navigator is a guide to climate change adaptation and mitigation	Local, municipal authorities, and companies
Tatenbank is a database with a focus on local and regional measures that have already been carried out or are currently being implemented	Several stakeholders
Climate Scout is run by the Climate Alliance and accompanies municipalities and communities in the development of suitable adaptation strategies.	Municipalities and communities
QuickCheck was developed as part of the northwest2050 research project. It provides enterprises with a tool to assess the degree to which they are affected by the impacts of climate change.	Companies
The LandCaRe-DSS system is aimed at agricultural companies and supports their decision-making processes by identifying appropriate adaptation options with the help of interactive scenarios.	Agricultural companies
Climate Service Center - GERICS offers products, advisory services, and decision-relevant information to support government, administration, and businesses in their efforts to adapt to climate change in a scientifically sound manner.	Government, administration, and companies

Note: This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

Source: German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) 2017



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